Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAA-01 NEAE-00 SSM-05
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00
TRSE-00 OMB-01 ACDA-12 HA-05 IO-14 /100 W
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FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4163

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

USUN NEW YORK 5834

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UNCLAS TEL AVIV 8869

E.O. 11652: NA TAGS: PEPR PINT IS

SUBJECT: CONTINUING ISRAELI REACTIONS TO VIENNA TALKS (JULY 13)

- 1. BEGIN SUMMARY: FORMER PRIME MINISTER RABIN CALLS ON GOI TO ACCEPT VIENNA DOCUMENT AS A BASIS FOR THE LONDON CONFERENCE. ABBA EBAN DEFENDS THE VIENNA DOCUMENT, WHILE DAYAN'S INFORMATION ADVISER ATTACKS THE PERES-SADAT MEETING. GOI AND OPPOSITION DISAGREE OVER INTERPRETATIONS OF PERES' REPORT ON THE TALKS. HEBREW PRESS EDITORIALS CRITICIZE DAYAN'S ATTACK ON THE VIENNA MEETING. END SUMMARY.
- 2. FORMER PRIME MINISTER RABIN (JULY 12) CALLED ON THE GOI TO ACCEPT THE VIENNA DOCUMENT AS A BASIS FOR THE LONDON UNCLASSIFIED

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CONFERENCE. NOTING THAT THE OPPORTUNITY CREASTED BY THE VIENNA TALKS MUST NOT BE WASTED, AND THAT THE CHANCES FOR PEACE MUST BE FULLY EXPLOITED, RABIN SAID IN RADIO AND TELEVISION INTERVIEWS, "PEACE MUST NOT BE FORFEITED BECAUSE OF THE 'NOT ONE INCH' POLICY". ALTHOUGH HE CAUTIONED THAT NO OFFICIAL CHANGE IN THE ALIGNMENT'S POLICY HAS OCCURRED, RABIN

DID SAY, "THE POSSIBILITY NOW EXISTS OF EXAMINING ALTERNATIVES TO THE GOVERNMENT'S LINE--ALTERNATIVES IN KEEPING-WITH THE ALIGNMENT'S POSITION".

3. ABBA EBAN, MEANWHILE, CONTINUED TO SPEAK OUT IN DEFENSE OF THE DOCUMENT HE IS GENERALLY ACKNOWLEDGED TO HAVE HAD A HAND IN DRAFTING. ARUGING THAT THE "VIENNA FORMULA" SHOWS "THERE IS NEGOTIATING POTENTIAL" BETWEEN ISRAEL AND EGYPT, PROVIDING THE PARTITION PRINCIPLE IS NOT REJECTED, EBAN OUTLINED SEVERAL PROVISIONS OF THE DOCUMENT WHICH HE CHARACTERIZED AS ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE ISRAELI POSITION; SPECIFICALLY:

A) IT REFERS TO ISRAELI SECURITY MEASURES OUTSIDE ISRAEL'S FINAL BOUNDARIES:

B) IT PROVIDES THAT THE FINAL BOUNDARIES ARE TO BE DETERMINED BY THE PARTIES THROUGH NEGOTIATION;
C) IN CONTRAST TO THE ASWAN FORMULA, IT MAKES NO REFERENCE TO PALESTINIAN "LEGITIMATE RIGHTS" OR TO THE "PALESTINIAN PEOPLE", TWO PHRASES WHICH PROVIDE THE BASIS FOR A PLO STATE.

4. FOREIGN MINISTER DAYAN, THROUGH AN AIDE, CONTINUED TO SPEAK OUT AGAINST THE PERES-SADAT MEETING. LA'AM MK ZALMAN SHOVAL, INFORMATION ADVISOR TO DAYAN, IS REPORTED BY THE JERUSALEM POST (SEGAL) TO HAVE ASSAILED UNCLASSIFIED

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PERES FOR UNDERMINING ISRAEL'S NEGOTIATING POSITION AT THE UPCOMING LONDON CONFERENCE. SEGAL HOLDS THAT SHOVAL SAW BEHIND PERES' MOVE AN AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION THAT IS "IN GREAT HASTE TO PRODUCE AN OVERALL MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT BY PAYING WITH ISRAELI TERRITORIAL CONCESSIONS". SHOVAL ALSO ATTACKED THOSE INDIVIDUALS IN THE GOVERNMENT WHO HAD "MISTAKENLY WELCOMED" THE VIENNA DOCUMENT.

5. HA'ARETZ (BENZIMAN) DISCUSSES DIFFERENCES WHICH EXIST BETWEEN THE GOI AND THE OPPOSITION ON INTERPRETATIONS OF A REPORT PERES SUBMITTED ON HIS VIENNA TALKS. ONE DIFFERENCE CENTERS ON WHETHER SADAT WILL CONTINUE BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH ISRAEL TOWARD A SEPARATE AGREEMENT. ACCORDING TO LABOR, SADAT SAID THAT, ALTHOUGH HE COULD NOT ACT ALONE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS, HE WOULD BE WILLING TO "MAKE PROGRESS" IF A JOINT DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES IS ACHIEVED. THE GOI CONTENDS THE MEANING OF THE PHRASE "MAKE PROGRESS" IS VAGUE AND THAT SADAT HAS SHOWN NO DISPOSITION TOWARD REACHING A SEPARATE AGREEMENT WITH ISRAEL. LABOR ALSO EMPHASIZES THAT SADAT'S AGREEMENT TO DROP THE WORD

"LEGITIMATE" FROM THE TERM "LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIANS" REPRESENTS A MODERATION OF HIS POSITION WHILE LIKUD STRESSES THAT SADAT TOLD PERES THE PALESTINIANS MUST BE GIVEN SELF-DETERMINATION AND BE ENCOURAGED TO LINK THEMSELVES WITH JORDAN. SIMILARLY, WHILE LABOR EMPHASIZED SADAT'S EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT THE FORMULA OF "WITHDRAWAL TO SECURE BORDERS TO BE FIXED IN PEACE NEGOTIATIONS", THE LIKUD STRESSES THAT SADAT TOLD PERES HE COULD NOT AGREE TO ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS REMAINING IN THE RAFAH APPROACHES AND THE SINAI AND THAT ISRAEL WOULD HAVE TO WITHDRAW FROM THE AIRFIELDS. DISAGREEMENT ALSO EXISTS OVER THE PROPER INTERPRETATION OF THE PHRASE "RESOLVING THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM IN ALL ITS LINCLASSIFIED."

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ASPECTS". DOES SADAT APPLY THIS PHRASE ONLY TO GAZA AND THE WEST BANK, OR TO THE ENTIRE MIDDLE EAST REGION (AND IMPLICITLY TO THE REFUGEE PROBLEM)?

6. EDITORIAL COMMENT JULY 13 IS CRITICAL OF DAYAN FOR HIS REJECTION OF THE VIENNA DOCUMENT. BOTH DAVAR AND AL HAMISHMAR WRITE THAT THE VIENNA TALKS SHOW THAT THE OPPORTUNITY FOR NEGOTIATIONS TOWARD A PEACE SETTLEMENT DO EXIST. AL HAMISHMAR STRESSES THAT EVEN RELATIVE HARDLINERS IN THE NRP ARE ABLE TO SUPPORT THE VIENNA DOCUMENT. DAYAN'S REJECTION OF THE DOCUMENT DEMONSTRATES HE IS NOT INTERESTED IN FINDING A WAY TO BRIDGE THE GAP TO ARRIVE AT A SETTLEMENT, DAVAR ASSERTS THAT THE GOI IS PRESENTLY PREOCCUPIED--NOT WITH FURTHER-ING THE NEGOTIATIONS, BUT WITH ATTEMPTING TO DISCLAIM ANY REPSONSIBILITY FOR THEIR FAILURE. THAT IS WHY, ACCORDING TO DAVAR, THE GOI REGARDS THE TALKS NOT AS THE CREATION OF AN OPPORTUNITY FOR PEACE, BUT RATHER AS "A STAB IN THE BACK FOR THE GOVERNMENT", DESPITE SADAT'S DISPLAYED MODERATION. ELSEWHERE IN ISRAEL, ACCORDING TO DAVAR, SUCH MODERATION IS GENERALLY WELCOMED. THIS NEWSPAPER MAINTAINS THAT THE OPPOSITION IS NOW ENTRUSTED WITH A TASK OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE: TO PRESENT A REAL ALTERNATIVE TO THE GOI'S DANGEROUS FOREIGN POLICY. **LEWIS**

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| Sheryl P. Walter | Declassified/Released | US Department of State | EO Systematic Review | 20 Mar 2014 |
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Message Attributes

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